

Ingham Intermediate
School DistrictMICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITYCollege of Agriculture
and Natural ResourcesSpartan Project SEARCH Newsletter
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Spartan Project SEARCH 2022

[Spartan Project SEARCH](#) is a one year, school-to-work transition program that provides training and education through internships within departments throughout Michigan State University. Collaboratively, the program prepares young adults with disabilities to enter the workforce with marketable and transferable skills. Spartan Project SEARCH is sponsored by the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Please forward this newsletter to your colleagues, family and community members. If they are interested in subscribing to future issues, simply click the [Subscribe Now!](#) button.



Job Development Begins

We are in our final month of the program and it will go by in a flash! Spartan Project SEARCH interns are continuing to push themselves on jobsites acquiring employability skills and practicing workplace social interactions. Interns recently completed the first of two employment planning meetings for this final rotation, creating goals for their remaining five weeks of the program. Interns are also revisiting topics in the classroom such as disability disclosure, self-advocacy, and the process for applying for jobs of interest. We are excited that some departments within MSU have openings! Interns seeking employment will be referred for job development services offered through our partner, Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS). MRS will provide job follow along services for interns after employment is achieved to ensure readiness.

Good Fruit Video filmed segments on campus of interns at work, in addition to interviewing our business liaison, Ben Darling, our MRS partners, and co-founder of Project SEARCH, Susie Rutkowski. It was wonderful to see the growth in our interns, as well as their increased confidence and pride in showing others what they do each day on the job. Be sure to look for this short video on our social media and website this summer.



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Department Spotlight: Biomedical Physical Sciences Building, Facilities. Supervisor: Judy Ramirez



Pictured above is Jah'le Thrash and his supervisor, Judy Ramirez. When asked about her experience with Jah'le she said "Jah'le was very helpful in the BMPS building. He came to work everyday with a positive attitude and helped to keep the building safe and healthy. Jah'le was a pleasure to work with and we wish him well in his next rotation."

Evan Buckowski, pictured right, interned with Judy in the fall and learned how to work independently.



Judy and her team have been huge supporters of the Spartan Project SEARCH Program...without the support of departments within MSU our program would not be possible. Thank you!

Save the Date!

Spartan Project SEARCH Interns will be celebrating their accomplishments with a [ceremony](#) on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 from 11:00 - 1:00 pm.



Rotation 3 Job Sites

- MSU Linen Services- Donna Svendsen
- Case Dining Hall- Ann O'Neil & Krista Miller
- 1855 Place Apartments - Charles Thompson-Osura
- Campus Animal Resources- Kim Williamson
- Kedzie Student Garden- Laura Markham
- Ingham ISD SAIL Program- Wendi King



Statewide Project SEARCH In-Person Meeting



The Spartan Project SEARCH team was excited to welcome Project SEARCH co-founder, Susie



Rutkowski, on a recent visit to our Michigan State University's campus.

Susie recently returned from Iceland where she assisted in opening a new Project SEARCH site. Project SEARCH is now in 9 countries, 48 states, and 668 programs sites!



Spartan Project SEARCH & MSU Demmer Shooting and Sports Education Center collaborated to host the Statewide Project SEARCH meeting this year. It was the first time those affiliated with Project SEARCH from all over Michigan have been able to network, collaborate, and connect since the start of the pandemic. It was an amazing opportunity to be re-energized and collaborate with other supporters of Project SEARCH.



Graduate Student Spotlight

Meet Kezia, a graduate from our 2020-2021 cohort. Since graduating last summer, she has been working at Shaw Dining Hall where she enjoys interacting with customers, helps prepare food and serve customers, and maintains the salad bar. She will be starting at Medilodge Nursing Home this summer where she will use her knowledge in the kitchen and learn how to assist with residents. Congratulations Kezia...we are so proud of you!



Upcoming Dates of Interest

- June 8, 2022 Celebration Ceremony



Apply for Project SEARCH

If you are interested in applying for Spartan Project SEARCH you can find more information on the Ingham Intermediate School District's Website [Spartan Project SEARCH](#)



Spartan Project SEARCH
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The [Project SEARCH](#) monthly newsletter was created to share stories with our community. Please forward this newsletter to your colleagues, family and community members. If they are interested in subscribing to future issues, click "[Subscribe Now.](#)"

If you are interested in Spartan Project SEARCH and/or would like to host an

intern, please contact: [Brooke Locher](#),
Instructor.

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